

Russia's New Minister of War

Only Thirty-Four Years of Age

Gen. Verkhovsky, Formerly a Chamber Page to the Czar, Has Proved Himself to Be an Ardent Revolutionist.

BY ISAAC DON LEVINE.

Gen. A. I. Verkhovsky, Russia's new war minister, who announced that his first task would be "to create a mighty revolutionary army," is but thirty-four years old, and is the youngest war minister in the world. Twelve years ago he was chamber page to the czar. Today he is Kerensky's right hand and probably the only military man in Russia capable of organizing a powerful revolutionary army.

Korniloff, Brusiloff, Alexieff and Rusk are all great soldiers, but their careers have been built under the Romanoff rule. Verkhovsky is a new type. He is a child of the Russian revolution. Although chamber page to the czar, he affiliated himself with the revolutionary movement of 1905, and was demoted from his rank and made a private in an artillery brigade for his socialist propaganda. At that time Verkhovsky was twenty-two years old. For more than two years he served as a private, but undismayed by his bad luck, he worked hard and with ardor till he was given a cross of St. George and again made an officer.

In 1908 Verkhovsky entered the academy of the general staff, from which he was graduated with honors as the best work on strategy in the school. In August, 1914, Verkhovsky, as a captain, participated in the battle of Tannenberg and received another cross for distinguished service. In August, 1915, he was appointed head of the operative department of the ninth army.

Adventure at Sebastopol.

The outbreak of the revolution found him in Sebastopol. The suppressed revolutionary flame in him immediately burst forth with great force. He organized the sailors and workers of that Black Sea port with such success that he rapidly acquired a national reputation. Toward the end of May he was called into active service in the capacity of colonel, but before he had time to leave he received an order from Kerensky to proceed to Moscow and occupy the post of commander of the Moscow military district. Verkhovsky's success in Moscow was extraordinary. The radicals and the army alike trusted and respected him. He showed firmness and tact, ardent revolutionism and a clear sense of duty. Those who watched him at his difficult task in Moscow, and Kerensky was one of these, soon realized that in Verkhovsky free Russia had a leader of great potentialities.

When Col. Verkhovsky arrived in the ancient Russian capital he addressed the local council of soldiers and workers. He won the council's enthusiastic support with the following words: "The Germans say: 'We were afraid of the czar's armies which obeyed the czar. But we are not afraid of free Russia. We are disintegrating. Have a little patience and we, the Germans, will become the masters of the world.' This is what Wilhelm II and Hindenburg say. We are facing the terrors of war, which we must end as soon as possible. The way to that goal has been pointed out by Russia's organized democracy, and we shall all march along the path which she has shown. We must create an army which should be able to take the offensive."

Never since the beginning of the war were we so close to peace as this spring. The Russian army considerably surpassed the German numbers. To every German there were three Russian soldiers. Had we taken the offensive in the spring the war would have been over now."

Not on Right Foundation.

At this point the speaker was interrupted by a man on the floor, who exclaimed: "In 1915 we also took the offensive, but the war did not end." Col. Verkhovsky answered:

"We could have ended the war even then had our army been built on the right foundations. Now we are in a position to construct an army which should be able to take the offensive. We must create the decision of the council of workers and soldiers' deputies to organize a new army, on which the provisional government can have time to deal with our enemies as well as with our colleagues."

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Garters, 18c
This coupon and 18c for Brighten satin-lined garters. Best colors.

Coupon
Longcloth, \$1.29
This coupon and \$1.29 for 19 yards of longcloth, in two or three pieces.

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Coupon
Nippon 5-Oz.
Toilet Paper,
3 Rolls for 13c
With this coupon.

Coupon
Matting School
Bags, 25c
This coupon and 25c for 2-inch matting bags, with metal clasps and handles.

Coupon
15c Domest
Flannel, 10 1/2c
This coupon and 10 1/2c for white and colored domest flannel, 10 1/2c per yard to a buyer.

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50c Sash
Curtains, 25c
This coupon and 25c for 36x40-inch Nottingham sash curtains, looped for hanging.

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2 for 9c
With this coupon.

Coupon
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This coupon and \$1.59 for 10-4 damask pattern cloths.

Coupon
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Special WAX
PAPER,
50 Sheets for 9c
With this coupon.

Coupon
Men's 15c
Socks, 10c
This coupon and 10c for medium-weight socks, in black, tan, gray and Palm Beach.

Coupon
25c Pillowcases, 19c
A clear saving of one-fourth on excellent quality 42x36 cases.

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Forehanded Buying Gives
Us the "Inside" Track
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BLANKETS
At Lowest-in-the-City Prices

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72x90 Wool-finished Blankets \$3.98
70x80 Wool-finished Blankets \$4.98
72x80 Fine Wool Blankets \$6.98

72x90 Sheets, 69c
Double-bed sheets, of strong bleached cotton, with welded seams.

25c Pillowcases, 19c
A clear saving of one-fourth on excellent quality 42x36 cases.

72x90 Wool-finished Blankets \$2.98
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In this work of strengthening the army and of collaborating intimately with you and all the organs of the organized democracy."

In the following interview with a correspondent of the Ruskova Slovo Col. Verkhovsky outlined last June some of his views and beliefs as to our army in the absence of any understanding of state responsibilities on the part of officers as well as of rank and file. And those 2,000,000 war prisoners and 2,000,000 deserters which our army had lost up to the revolution were the result of that lack of understanding. The creation of a new army today—the army of the great Russian revolution—should be inaugurated with the raising to the necessary altitudes of the popular conception of the idea of state. For that purpose, it is essential to establish the most intimate union with those parties which believe in Russia's existence as a state, and which embrace widely all the socialistic and democratic currents.

University for Masses.

"In Sebastopol I was the vice president of the central committee of the delegates of the Black sea fleet and the Sebastopol garrison and workmen, and can testify that the work carried on by the central committee in that direction was eminently successful. There the definite point of view was taken that violence must be employed in no case and under no circumstances whatsoever."

"The work of the central committee gave most positive results. The masses began to understand their duties, the instinct of self-preservation was aroused in them, and this instinct showed itself in the form of a cycle of popular talks, started a paper which spoke in a democratic language, clear and intelligible to all."

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Faith His Great Asset.

This is the great asset of Verkhovsky—faith. Like Kerensky, who is but two years his senior, Russia's new war minister has the unshakable faith that the Russian people will pass the supreme task of the moment and justify the great revolution. A chamber-page to the czar, a socialist, a disgraced private, a brilliant military student, army by committee, committee of soldiers and officers. Such committees were organized in Sebastopol as early as March of 1915.

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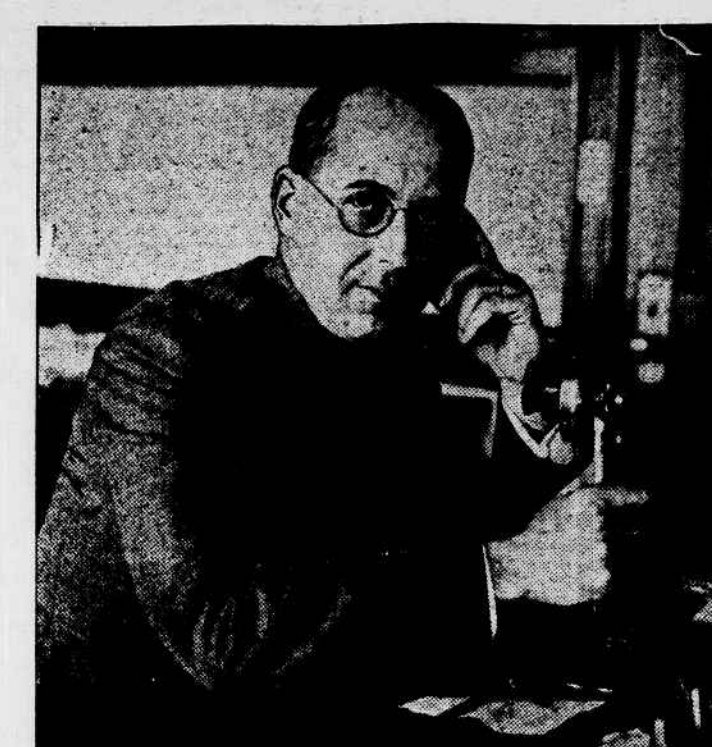
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DIRECTS BUILDING OF CANTONMENTS.



MAJ. W. A. STARRETT.
Chairman of committee on emergency construction and contracts of the Council of National Defense.

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RUSS EXTREMISTS

HOLDING THE STAGE

Bolsheviki Demand Immediate Armistice in War and Disarming of Capitalists.

MEET FIRM OPPOSITION

BY HAROLD WILLIAMS.

(Special Telegram from the Sunday Star and New York Times.)

PETROGRAD, September 29 (delayed).—It is growing more and more difficult in Russia to halt between opinions. Issues are forced to the front. The extremists of either side urge their case with logic, whose cogency cannot be denied if you will admit all their premises.

For the Bolsheviki the central question is that of war. They argue that the only way to combat the counter-revolution is to stop war. If you go on fighting you must have generals, Kerensky must ally himself with Alexieff, money and munitions must be borrowed from the allies, Russia must remain dependent on the British capitalist and the British capitalist will give money only on the security of a strong government, which from their point of view is necessarily counter-revolutionary.

Would Declare Armistice.

"Therefore," they say, "a socialist government must be established. We must declare an immediate armistice and propose frankly and honestly terms of peace that will thrill the workmen of all countries and impel them to lay down their arms. They have brought them against the capitalists who oppress and delude them and forced them into war. In Russia the capitalists must be disarmed and all lands taken out of the hands of private owners and given to the peasantry, and then, in firm alliance between the peasantry and the workmen of the towns, the revolution will secure its final victory."

No Change in Mrs. Smith's Condition.

No decided change has been reported in the condition of Mrs. Hoke Smith, wife of the senator from Georgia, who is ill of pneumonia at her home. Physicians attending Mrs. Smith say that there is no decided change in her condition for four or five days.

Say Country Is Ruined.

The argument of the other extremists is "Socialist experiments have ruined the country. The Soviets have destroyed discipline in the army and reduced the internal administration to chaos. They have exposed us to disaster and disgraced at the front and economic catastrophe at home. They imperil the existence of Russia as a great power. They have brought upon us the contempt of our allies and our enemies. They have made us ashamed of all disasters throughout the world. These are the slaves of the Germans."

Coupon
Men's 25c
Ties, 24c
This coupon and 24c for hand-some striped tub silk ties, four in-hand.

Coupon
15c Handkerchiefs, 9c
This coupon and 9c for women's sheer handkerchiefs, with white or colored embroidered corners.

Coupon
10c Wash Ribbon, 8c
This coupon and 8c for a 5-yard striped tub silk lingerie ribbon.

Coupon
Boys' Blouses, 25c
This coupon and 25c for white, striped and blue boys' blouses. Limit, 2 to a buyer.

Coupon
59c and 75c
Waists, 39c
This coupon and 39c for women's white, embroidered, trimmed waists.

Coupon
24-Oz. Bottle
Household Ammonia, 4c
With this coupon.

Coupon
35c Burson
Hose, 21c
This coupon and 21c for women's 15c hose, in black, white, tan and regular and extra sizes. Slightly imperfect.

Coupon
10c Crochet Cotton, 8c
This coupon and 8c for white and colored mercerized cotton.

Coupon
24-Oz. Bottle
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CARDS OF THANKS.

DOUGLAS. We wish to thank the relatives, friends and neighbors for their kind sympathy and beautiful floral offerings to our dear sister, SCOTIA, who passed away at her home, SCOTIA, BY HER BROTHERS.

TAYLOR. I wish to express my appreciation and thanks to my friends for their kindness and beautiful floral offerings to our dear sister, SCOTIA, who passed away at her home, SCOTIA, BY HER BROTHERS.

MARRIED.

MONTGOMERY-CARTWRIGHT. Mr. and Mrs. William Cartwright announce the marriage of their daughter, LORETTA, to Mr. ROBERT V. MONTGOMERY, at Elkton, Md., September 18, 1917. At home after October 1, at Sargent road, Brookland, D. C.

DIED.

BRUCE. Departed this life Saturday, September 22, 1917, at